

HOUSE No. 436

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

PRESENTED BY:

Bradley H. Jones, Jr.

To the Honorable Senate and House of Representatives of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts in General Court assembled:

The undersigned legislators and/or citizens respectfully petition for the passage of the accompanying bill:

Resolve relative to teacher licensure.

PETITION OF:

NAME:	DISTRICT/ADDRESS:
Viriato Manuel deMacedo	1st Plymouth
Bradley H. Jones, Jr.	20th Middlesex
George N. Peterson, Jr.	9th Worcester
Elizabeth Poirier	14th Bristol
Paul K. Frost	7th Worcester
Susan Williams Gifford	2nd Plymouth
Bradford R. Hill	4th Essex
Richard J. Ross	9th Norfolk
Todd M. Smola	1st Hampden

[SIMILAR MATTER FILED IN PREVIOUS SESSION
SEE HOUSE, NO. 466 OF 2007-2008.]

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

In the Year Two Thousand and Nine

RESOLVE RELATIVE TO TEACHER LICENSURE.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Court assembled, and by the authority of the same, as follows:

1 Notwithstanding any general or special law to the contrary, there shall be a special commission
2 to study and report on ways to improve the teacher licensure process. The commission shall
3 consist of the commissioner of education; 3 members of the house of representatives, 2 of whom
4 shall to be appointed by the speaker of the house, and 1 of whom shall be appointed by the
5 minority leader of the house; 3 members of the senate, 2 of whom shall be appointed by the
6 senate president, and 1 of whom shall be appointed by the senate minority leader; the chancellor
7 of higher education; a representative of the Massachusetts Teacher Association; and a member
8 appointed by the governor. The scope of the commission shall include, but shall not be limited
9 to: researching the current process of teacher licensure and ways to streamline the process of
10 certifying qualified applicants; analyzing the effectiveness, clarity and accessibility of
11 applications and certification via email and the internet; examining the feasibility of streamlining
12 the application process for teachers who have previous extensive experience in a public or a
13 private school system; evaluating possible options to simplify or lessen current state teacher

14 licensure regulations; and examining the capacity of the department to process all teacher
15 applications and certifications in a timely manner. The commission shall submit its report to the
16 board of education, the joint committee on education, and the senate and house clerks no later
17 than six months after the passage of this act.